

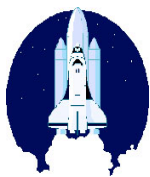


countdown

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Atlantis in VAB waiting for new launch date



◆ Shuttle Update:

Space shuttle **Atlantis** has rolled back (below) from Launch Pad 39A to the Vehicle Assembly Building to await launch on its

STS-125 mission to repair NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. The new launch date still is under review.



Space shuttle **Endeavour**, which is on Launch Pad 39B, is scheduled to roll around to Pad 39A on Saturday to prepare for its launch on the STS-126 mission. Its targeted launch date is Nov. 14 at 7:55 p.m. EST.

◆ **ELV Update:** NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer mission, or IBEX, successfully launched from the Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean at 1:47 p.m. EDT, Sunday. IBEX will be the first spacecraft to image and map dynamic interactions taking place in the outer solar system.

The spacecraft separated from the third stage of its Pegasus launch vehicle at 1:53 p.m. and immediately began powering up components necessary to control onboard systems. The operations team is checking out spacecraft subsystems.

After a 45-day orbit raising and spacecraft checkout period, the spacecraft will start its exciting science mission.

NASA's next ELV launch is the Orbiting Carbon Observatory, or OCO, in 2009. The OCO is a new Earth-orbiting mission sponsored by NASA's Earth System Science Pathfinder Program.

■ **Did You Know?** Recycling 35 percent of our trash reduces greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to taking 36 million cars off the road?

■ **PM Challenge Status** — Questions have been raised regarding what impact the recent direction regarding conferences in the NASA Authorization Bill will have on the PM Challenge. Since the PM Challenge clearly is a training event, there is cautious optimism that the event will be held at the time and place scheduled with only minor modifications.

NASA management currently is developing instructions to implement the Bill's direction. The final instructions are anticipated to be in place by the end of October. Please save the date and check back for updates on the status at <http://pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov/speak er2009.htm>.

■ Safety Poster Contest For Kids —



This is a chance to have your family's artwork on an official NASA calendar, for all to see! NASA UB and CAPPS will be holding the fourth annual safety/health poster contest for NASA and contractor family members ages 4 - 16. Thirty-six winning entries will be reproduced in the 2009 "Got Safety?" calendar. An awards ceremony and celebration for the winners

IBEX launches, waits for checkout to start its mission

will be held Jan. 9 at KARS Park I.

The deadline for entries is Nov. 3.

The entry forms/poster boards are available for pick-up from the following:

- Jeannie Ruiz, SSPF/Room 3068F, 867-5833
- Gloria Peterson, SSPF/Room 1018N, 867-5460
- Terry Neuhart, OSB /Room 2301F, 861-4057

Entry forms also will be available in the O&C/Room 2071, and the following SSPF rooms: cafeteria, 3006, 2048, 2070 and 2094.

■ HQ Building Blood Drive

— Florida's Blood Centers is having a blood drive **today** 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the HQ Building. The Blood Mobile will be located in the courtyard entrance, southeast of the cafeteria. Please bring a photo ID with your first and last name on it. All blood donors will receive a great feeling knowing they saved three lives! To schedule an appointment, please e-mail Linda Scott at lscott@floridasbloodcenters.org. Walk-ins also are welcome! For medical eligibility questions, please call 1-888-9-donate or visit the Web site at: www.floridasbloodcenters.org.



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